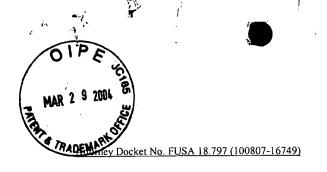
#10/4-1324 V- Jony



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Tetsuya YANO, et al.

Serial No.:

09/901,295

Filed:

July 9, 2001

Title:

TURBO DECODER Stephen M. Baker

Examiner: Art Unit:

2133

Con. No.:

21*33* 8755 RECEIVED

APR 0 6 2004

Technology Center 2100

March 29, 2004

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the documents listed thereon. This document contains information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to any action having the effect of closing prosecution in the present application, \$180.00 accompanies this document in accordance with 04/13/2004 VJ3/762FR088919 7(139and 07)17(p).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated

that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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